

Current Crime Trends in ALBERTA

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1982

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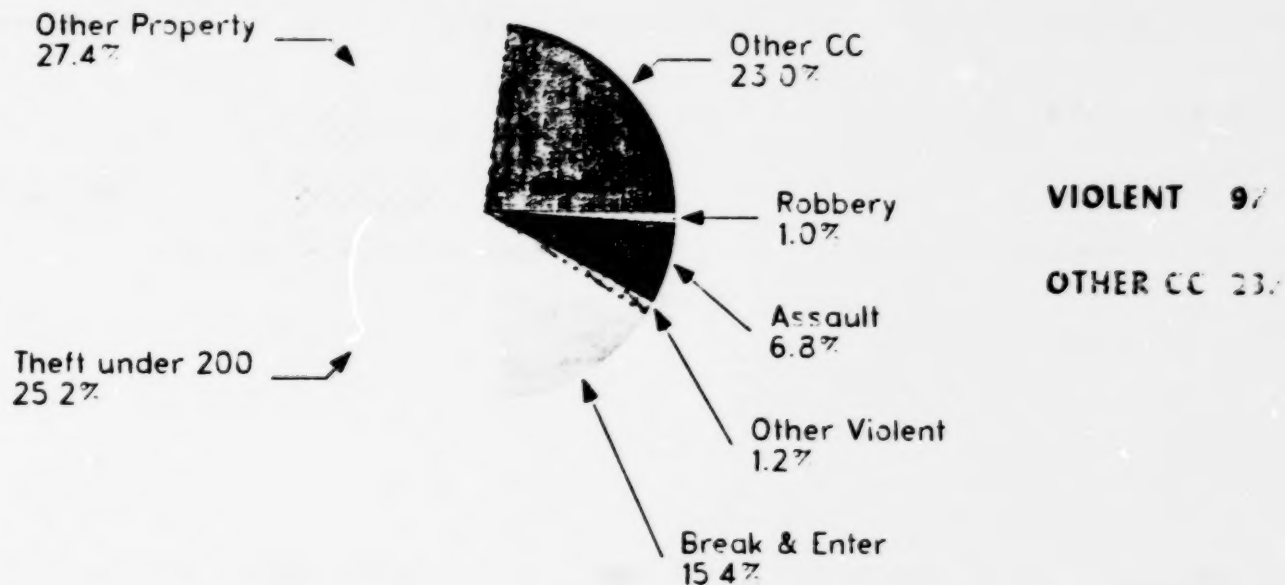


EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

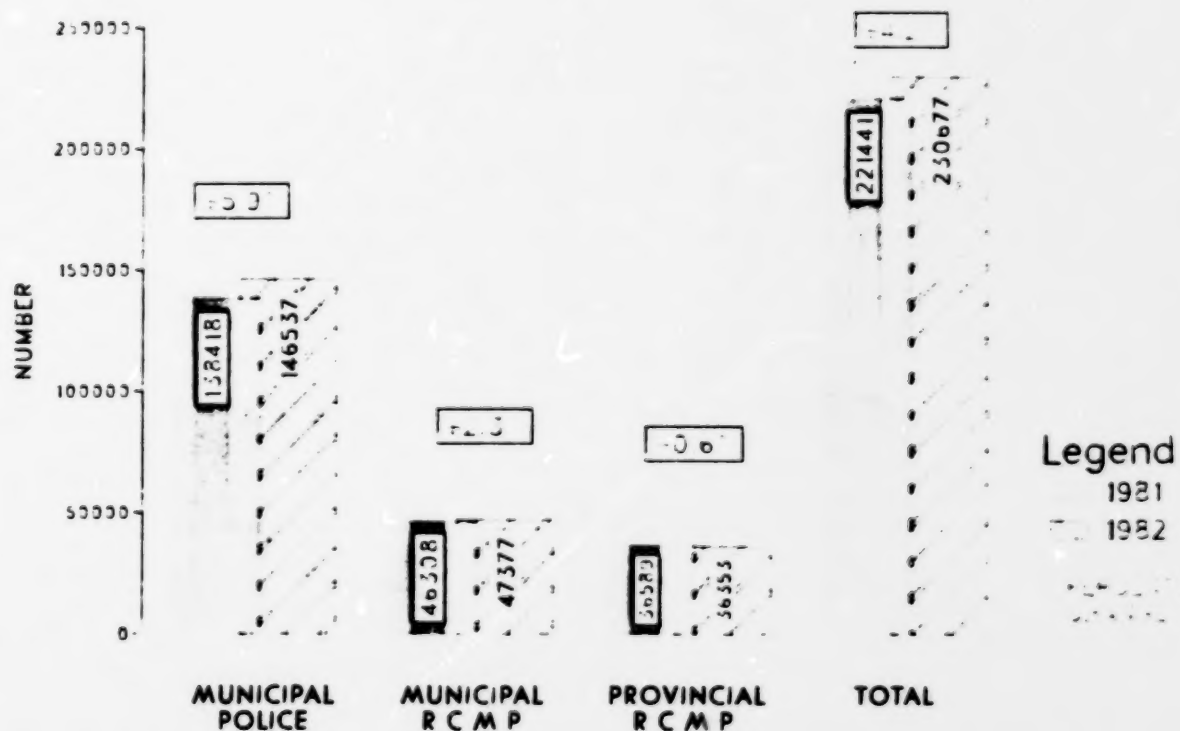
1. This report summarizes measures of crime and the extent to which crime is solved in the province. Statistics are provided for the province as a whole as well as broken down by municipal police department and R.C.M.P. jurisdiction. R.C.M.P. jurisdictions are separated into R.C.M.P. forces contracted by municipalities and R.C.M.P. provincial forces contracted to police rural areas.
2. The following trends were evident for the province as a whole:
 - a. The number of Criminal Code offences increased 4.2% between 1981 and 1982. In 1981, there were 221,441 Criminal Code offences and in 1982, there were 230,677 offences. There was a 5.3% increase in property crime and a 10.8% increase in violent crime. Other Criminal Code crime decreased 1.0% between 1981 and 1982.
 - b. The number of persons charged with Criminal Code crime decreased 6.3% in 1982 when compared to 1981. In Alberta, 55,590 persons were charged with Criminal Code offences in 1981 while 52,105 persons were charged in 1982. The number of persons charged with violent or property crime increased less than 1% between 1981 and 1982. There were only 0.4% more persons charged with property offences and 0.7% more persons charged with violent offences in 1982 when compared to 1981. The number of persons charged with other Criminal Code crime decreased substantially (23.8%).
 - c. The rate at which Criminal Code crime was cleared was relatively constant over the last two years. The clearance rate for Criminal Code crime was 35.3% in 1981 and 34.0% in 1982. Property crime was cleared at a rate of 28.6% in 1981 and 27.2% in 1982. The corresponding clearance rates of other Criminal Code crime were 40.3% and 39.2% respectively. Violent crime had the highest clearance rates but decreased between 1981 and 1982. In 1981, 75.2% of violent crime was cleared while in 1982, 72.9% was cleared. More violent crime was cleared otherwise than by charge.
 - d. Criminal Code crime was comprised mostly of property offences. Sixty-eight percent of all Criminal Code offences were property related. Theft under \$200 offences were the most prevalent property offences in Alberta. Most types of property crime decreased in rate per 100,000 population. The exceptions were theft over \$200 and fraud.

- e. The most common violent crime in the province was assault. Sexual assaults increased at a faster rate than common assault during 1982.
 - f. A decrease in the amount of vandalism was largely responsible for the decrease in other Criminal Code crime during 1982.
3. The following observations were made for the different police forces in Alberta:
- a. The number of Criminal Code offences increased 5.9% while the number of persons charged increased 3.1% in jurisdictions with municipal police departments between 1981 and 1982. Slightly more crime was cleared in 1982 than in 1981. Municipal police departments cleared 28.7% of Criminal Code crime in 1982 and 29.3% in 1981. During 1982, 22.5% of the offences were cleared by charge and 6.8% were cleared otherwise.
 - b. The implementation of the Operational Statistics Reporting System (O.S.R.) by the R.C.M.P. has tended to partially deflate the resultant U.C.R. data. This is mainly reflected in the number of offences and the clearance rates in R.C.M.P. jurisdictions. Bearing this in mind, Criminal Code crime increased 1.3% while the number of persons charged decreased by 20.3% in 1982. Less Criminal Code crime was cleared in 1982 than in 1981. The clearance rates were 47.7% in 1981 and 42.2% in 1982. Although more crime was cleared by R.C.M.P. jurisdictions, the difference was in the number of crimes cleared otherwise. The number of crimes cleared by charge was approximately equal for both municipal police and the R.C.M.P. Twenty-three per cent of Criminal Code crime was cleared by charge in R.C.M.P. policed jurisdictions during 1982. As indicated above, 22.5% of Criminal Code crime was cleared by charge in municipal police jurisdictions in the same period.
 - c. In municipalities contracting with the R.C.M.P., Criminal Code crime increased 2.3% while the number of persons charged with crime decreased 18.8%.
 - d. Criminal Code crime decreased 0.6% between 1981 and 1982 in rural areas policed by the R.C.M.P. The number of persons charged by provincial R.C.M.P. forces decreased 21.7% between these periods.

COMPOSITION OF CRIMINAL CODE CRIME IN ALBERTA - 1982



NUMBER OF CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES BY POLICING JURISDICTION 1981 and 1982



INTRODUCTION

This report compares crime in Alberta during 1981 and 1982. Following an overview of provincial crime trends is an examination of selected policing jurisdictions.

A definition of Criminal Code crime in Alberta is followed by the section comparing the number of offences which occurred in 1981 and 1982. The above figures give an indication of growth in crime.

The next section, 'Measures of Police Effectiveness', gives an indication of the extent to which crime reported in the first section was solved. The statistics included here are the number of persons charged with offences and the number of crimes cleared by the police.

The following section entitled 'Offence Rates' reports crime in terms of offences per 100,000 population. These crime rates indicate the relative frequency of occurrence of crime. Rates per 100,000 population are useful because they standardize statistics by controlling differences in populations. Therefore, comparisons can be made between 1981 and 1982 although the population increased during this period.

The components of Criminal Code crime are examined according to the format discussed above in the following order: violent

crime, property crime and other Criminal Code crime. Crime trends are examined for jurisdictions with municipal police departments and jurisdictions policed by the R.C.M.P. The R.C.M.P. is further divided into sixty municipalities policed by the R.C.M.P. under a municipal policing agreement and provincial areas policed by the R.C.M.P pursuant to the provincial policing agreement. The definitions provided in the description of crime in the province also apply to the selected policing jurisdictions.

A summary of the statistics included in this report is presented in Tables 1 through 8. The crime statistics are extracted from the Police Information System (POLIS). 1981 population statistics used to calculate crime rates were taken from the Census of Canada. 1982 population statistics were obtained from Alberta Municipal Affairs.

ALBERTA

TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE CRIME

Definitions

Total Criminal Code crime includes all Criminal Code offences except impaired driving and other Criminal Code traffic offences. Criminal Code crime is separated into the three classes of violent, property and other Criminal Code offences.

Figure 1A indicates the proportion that each class of crime contributed to the Criminal Code crime total in 1981 and 1982. While the total number of offences has changed, the proportion that each type of crime contributed to the total did not change significantly. Property offences were the most common class of Criminal Code crime during both years.

1981 & 1982 Comparisons

Figure 1B depicts the provincial level of Criminal Code crime and the percent change between the years 1981 and 1982. While 221,441 offences occurred in 1981, 230,677 offences occurred in 1982, representing 4.2% growth between the two years.

Figure 1A
BREAKDOWN OF CRIMINAL CODE CRIME
BY TYPE

Legend
Violent
Other Criminal Code
Property

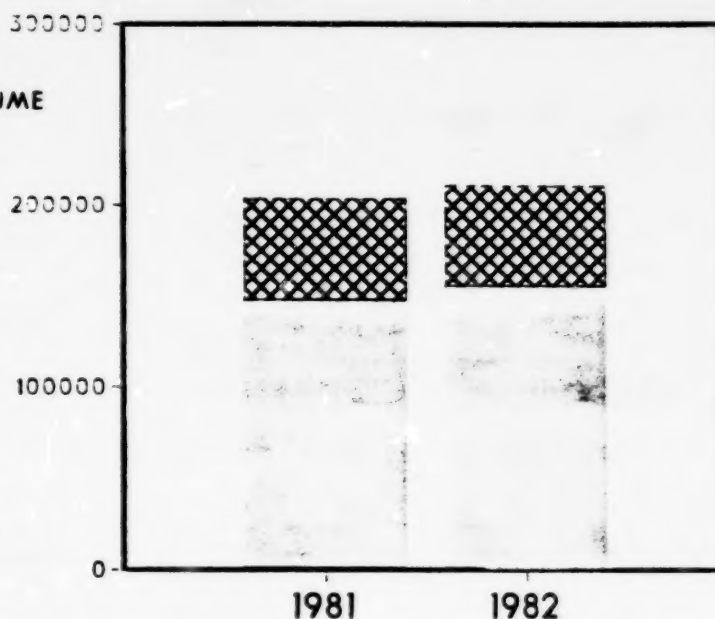
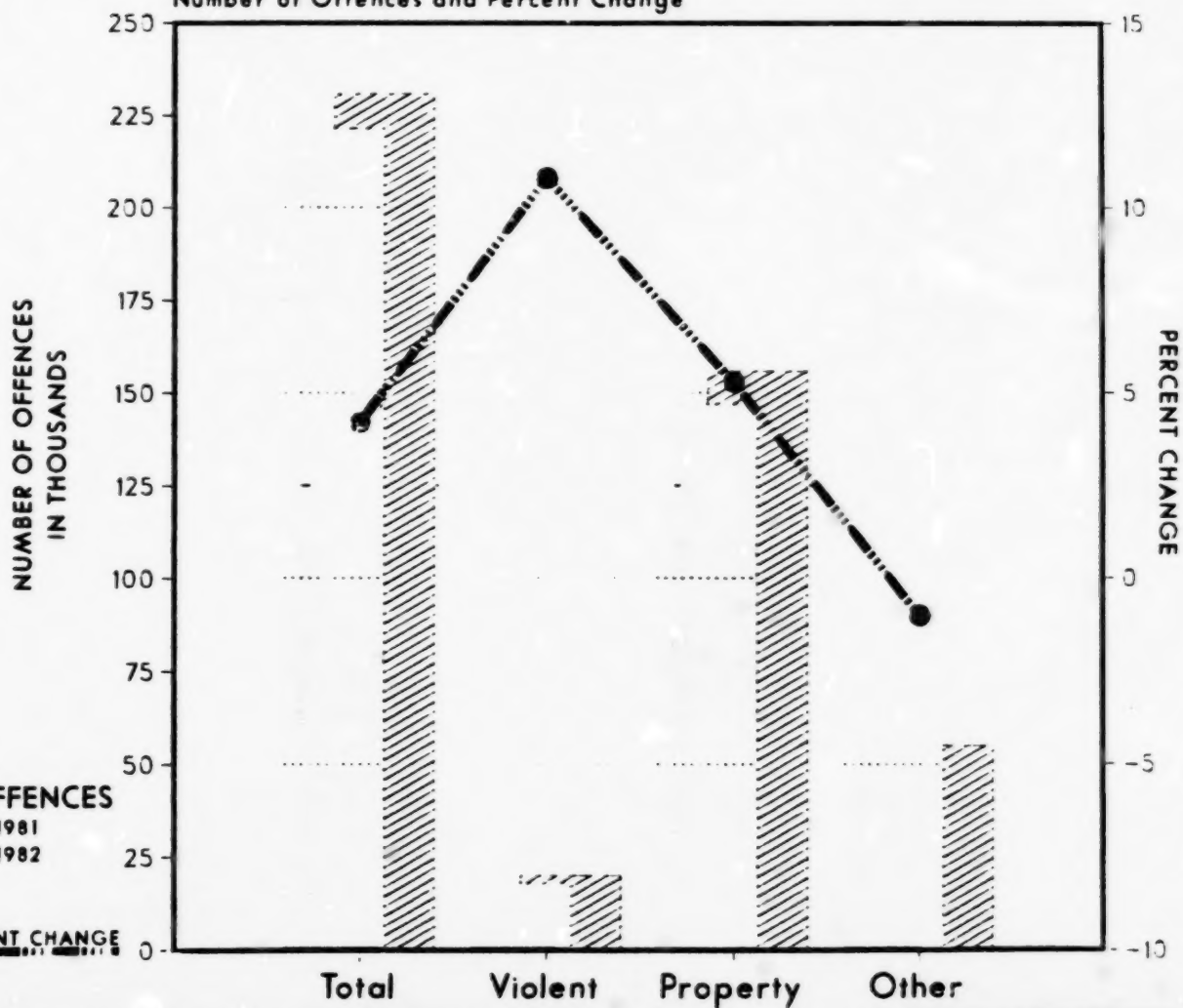


Figure 1B
Number of Offences and Percent Change



Measures of Police Effectiveness

Although the number of Criminal Code offences increased, the number of persons charged with Criminal Code offences decreased 6.3% between 1981 and 1982. In 1981, 55,590 persons were charged with Criminal Code offences while during 1982, 52,105 persons were charged. Figure 2A shows the number of persons charged in each class of crime for 1981 and 1982.

In Alberta, 35.3% of Criminal Code crime was cleared in 1981. Thirty-four percent of Criminal Code crime was cleared in 1982. Most of the offences which occurred in 1982 were cleared by charge (22.7%). 11.3% of the Criminal Code offences were cleared otherwise. Figure 2B illustrates the number of offences cleared compared to the total number of Criminal Code offences in 1982.

Offence Rates

There were 9,895.8 Criminal Code offences per 100,000 population during 1981 in the province. This rate increased 0.5% to 9,943.0 offences per 100,000 population during 1982. Offences against property exhibited the highest crime rates. There were 6,610.4 property offences per 100,000 population in 1981 and 6,715.1 offences per 100,000 population in 1982, an increase of 1.6%. The violent crime rate increased 6.9% between 1981 and 1982. The violent crime rate increased from

MEASURES OF POLICE EFFECTIVENESS. ALBERTA

Fig 2A Number of Persons Charged with Criminal Code Offences

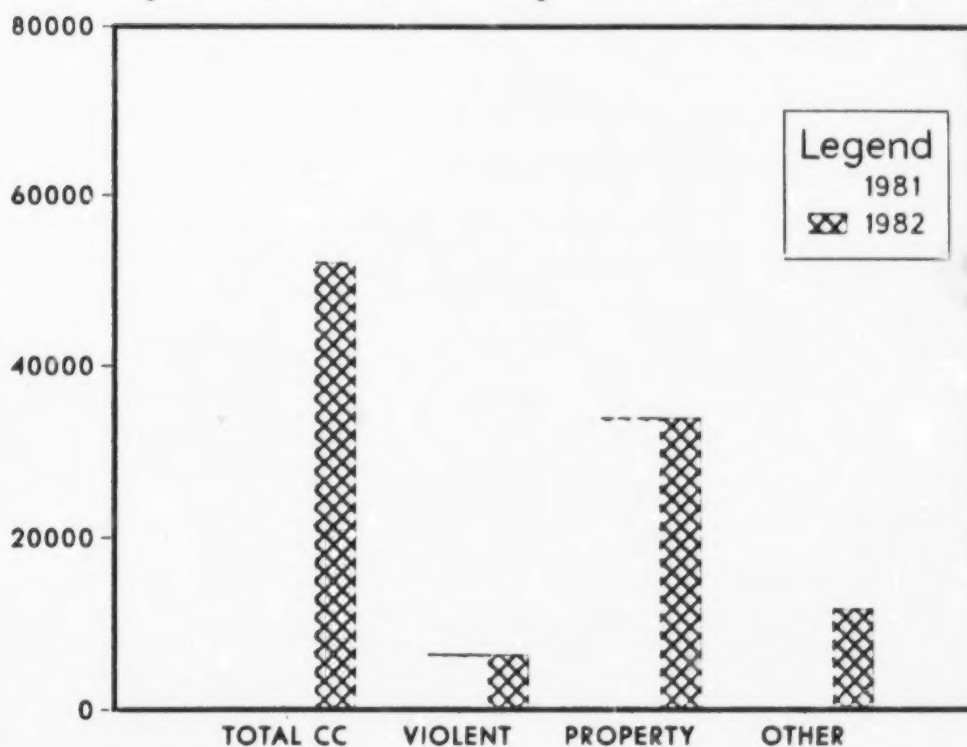
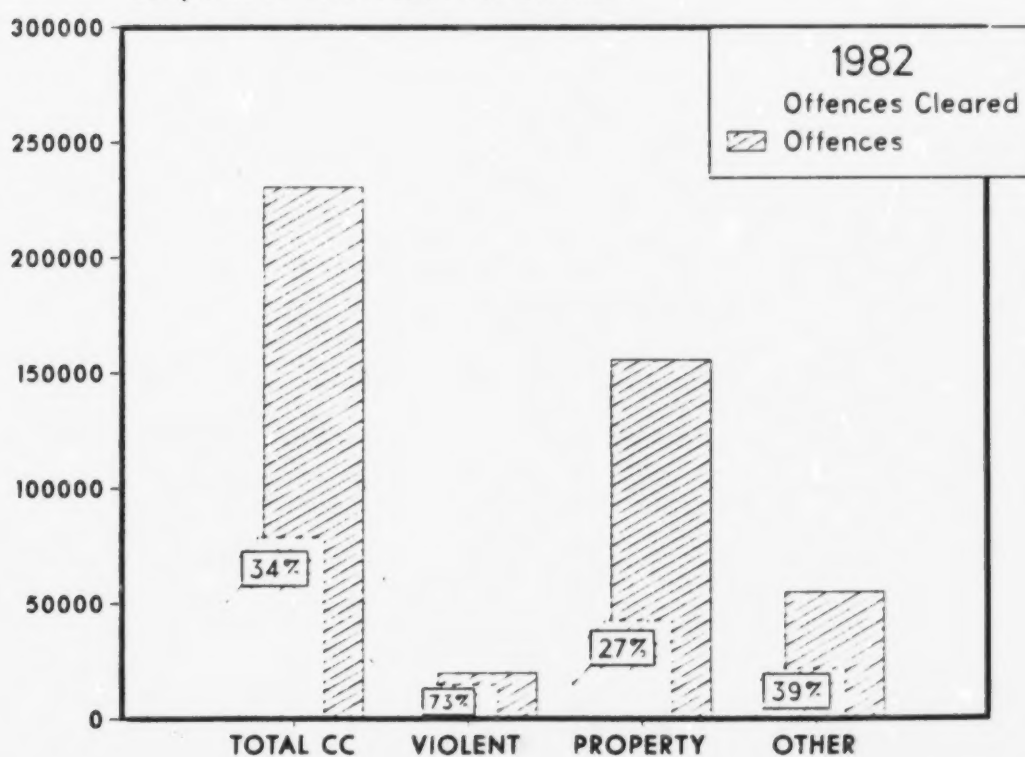


Fig. 2B Number of Criminal Code Offences Cleared Compared to Total Number of Offences



805.6 offences per 100,000 population in 1981 to 860.8 offences per 100,000 population in 1982. The corresponding rates for other Criminal Code crime were 2,479.9 in 1981 and 2,367.1 during 1982, representing a decrease of 4.5%.

VIOLENT CRIME

Definitions

Violent crimes are offences that occur against the person. More specifically, they include murder, manslaughter and attempted murder, rape and other sexual offences, assault and robbery.

1981 & 1982 Comparisons

Violent crime increased more than any other class of Criminal Code crime during 1982. There was 10.8% more violent crime in 1982 than in 1981. This was the result of an increase from 18,026 offences in 1981 to 19,970 offences in 1982.

Measures of Police Effectiveness

The number of persons charged with violent offences increased 0.7% between 1981 and 1982. There were 6,359 persons charged during 1981 and 6,402 persons charged during 1982.

Violent crime has the highest clearance rates of all offense types. The clearance rate in 1981 was 75.2% and 72.9% in 1982. While overall, most Criminal Code offences were cleared by charge, the greatest percentage of violent offences were cleared otherwise. In 1982, 32.2% of violent crime was cleared by charge; the remaining 40.7% was cleared otherwise.

Offence Rates

No other violent offence occurred as frequently as assault. There were 635.1 assaults per 100,000 population in 1981 and 678.2 offences per 100,000 in 1982, an increase of 6.8%. Assaults against police officers were the only kind of assault to decrease in 1982.

The number of sexual assaults per 100,000 also increased from 72.1 offenses in 1981 to 78.7 offences during 1982. This represents an increase of 9.1% in the province. Indecent assault against females was the most common sexual offence in 1981 and 1982.

While not as common as assault, robbery increased 6.4% from 90.7 offences per 100,000 in 1981 to 96.5 per 100,000 in 1982. Only robberies involving offensive weapons increased during 1982 while other robberies decreased during this period.

PROPERTY CRIME

Definitions

Property offences involve all classes of theft, fraud and breaking and entering offences. Theft is divided into theft of motor vehicles, theft over \$200 and theft under \$200.

1981 & 1982 Comparisons

Property crime in Alberta was 5.3% greater in 1982 than in 1981. The number of property offences was 147,922 in 1981 and 155,790 in 1982.

Measures of Police Effectiveness

The number of persons charged with property offences did not vary significantly between 1981 and 1982. There was only a 0.4% increase from 33,821 persons in 1981 to 33,967 in 1982.

Property crime clearance rates are typically the lowest. While 28.6% of all property offences that occurred in 1981 were cleared, 27.2% were cleared in 1982. Most of these offences were cleared by charge. In 1982, 20.6% of the offences were cleared by charge and only 6.6% were cleared otherwise.

Offence Rates

The rate per 100,000 population of most property crimes decreased during 1982. The rate of break and enter decreased 1.6%, motor vehicle theft decreased 8.1%, theft under \$200 decreased 1.0%, and possession of stolen property decreased 6.7%.

There were more theft under offences per 100,000 population than any other property offence in spite of the decrease. The rate of thefts under \$200 was 2,530.2 per 100,000 population in 1981 and 2,504.4 per 100,000 in 1982. Shoplifting under \$200 was the only theft under \$200 to increase during 1982. There were 438.3 shoplifting offences per 100,000 population in 1981 and 470.3 offences in 1982, representing an increase of 7.3%.

Theft over \$200 occurred at a rate of 1,287.7 offences per 100,000 population in 1981 and increased to a rate of 1,433.5 per 100,000 in 1982. This is an increase of 11.3%. Theft from motor vehicles, which occurred at a rate of 709.2 thefts per 100,000 population in 1982, was the most common of these offences.

Fraud increased 11.4% from 552.1 offences per 100,000 population in 1981 to 615.0 offences per 100,000 population in 1982. While fraudulent cheque offences were the most fre-

quently occurring fraud in 1982, credit card fraud increased significantly during this period (27.4%).

OTHER CRIMINAL CODE CRIME

Definitions

All prostitution, gaming and betting, and offensive weapons charges are classified as other Criminal Code Crime. Also included in this category is a residual group of offences such as arson and disturbing the peace.

Vandalism was the most common other Criminal Code crime in Alberta. These offences accounted for 52% of the total number of other Criminal Code offences that occurred during 1982.

1981 & 1982 Comparisons

Other Criminal Code crime decreased from 55,493 offences in 1981 to 54,917 offences in 1982. The decline in the number of offences was 1.0% between these two periods.

Measures of Police Effectiveness

The number of persons charged with other Criminal Code offences

in Alberta also declined. There were 23.8% fewer persons charged in 1982 than there were in 1981. This represents a decrease from 15,410 to 11,736 persons charged.

During 1981, 40.3% of other Criminal Code offences were cleared and during 1982, 39.2% were cleared. A larger proportion of the offences were cleared by charge than were cleared otherwise. Of all the other Criminal Code offences that occurred in 1982, 25.1% were cleared by charge and 14.0% were cleared otherwise.

Offence Rates

There was more vandalism per 100,000 population than any other offence in this class of crime. The crime rate was 1,401.9 offences per 100,000 population in 1981 and 1,240.7 offences per 100,000 in 1982. The rate of vandalism decreased 11.5% between these two periods.

The rate of bail violations (failure to comply with an undertaking, recognizance, summons, or appearance notice) also decreased significantly in 1982 (27.1%) from 118.4 offences per 100,000 population in 1981 to 86.3 offences per 100,000 in 1982.

Disturbing the peace was the only offence of this type to increase substantially during 1982. This rate was 161.2 in 1981 and 193.8 in 1982, representing an increase of 20.2%.

MUNICIPAL POLICE DEPARTMENTS

TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE CRIME

1981 & 1982 Comparisons

As indicated in Figure 3, Criminal Code crime in jurisdictions with municipal police departments increased 5.9% between 1981 and 1982. There were 138,418 offences in 1981 and 146,537 offences in 1982.

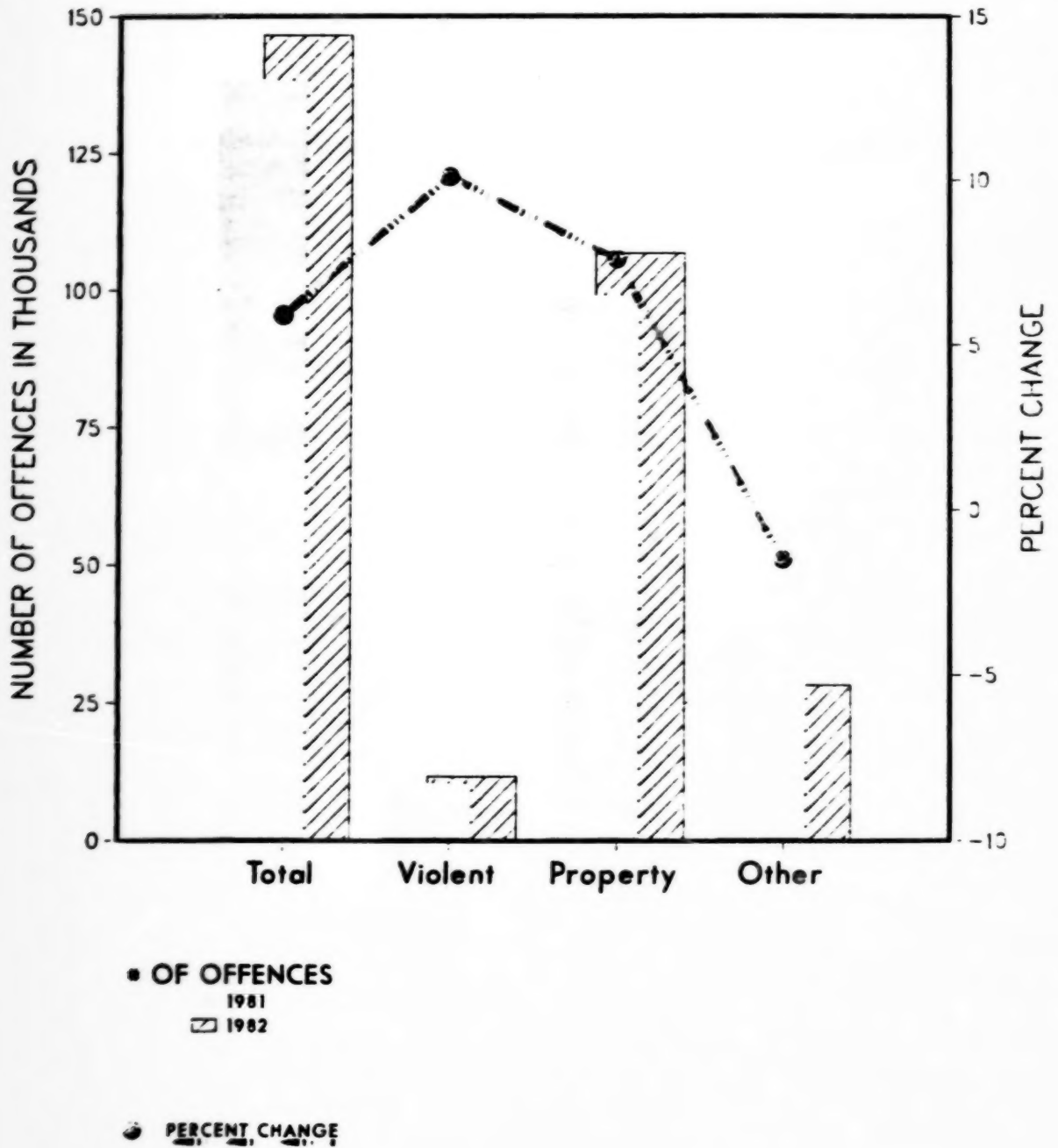
Measures of Police Effectiveness

The number of persons charged during 1982 increased at a slightly slower pace than the number of offences. The number of persons charged with Criminal Code offences increased 3.1% between 1981 and 1982. During 1981, 33,246 persons were charged with Criminal Code offences while during the corresponding period of 1982, 34,287 persons were charged. Figure 4A shows the number of persons charged in each class of crime during 1981 and 1982.

Municipal police departments cleared 28.7% of all Criminal Code offences in 1981 and 29.3% of the offences in 1982. Most of the charges cleared in 1981 and 1982 were cleared by charge. Of the offences that occurred in 1982, 22.5% were cleared by charge and 6.8% were cleared otherwise. Figure 4B illustrates

FIGURE 3

CRIMINAL CODE CRIME IN MUNICIPAL POLICE JURISDICTIONS



MEASURES OF POLICE EFFECTIVENESS MUNICIPAL POLICE

Fig 4A Number of Persons Charged with Criminal Code Offences

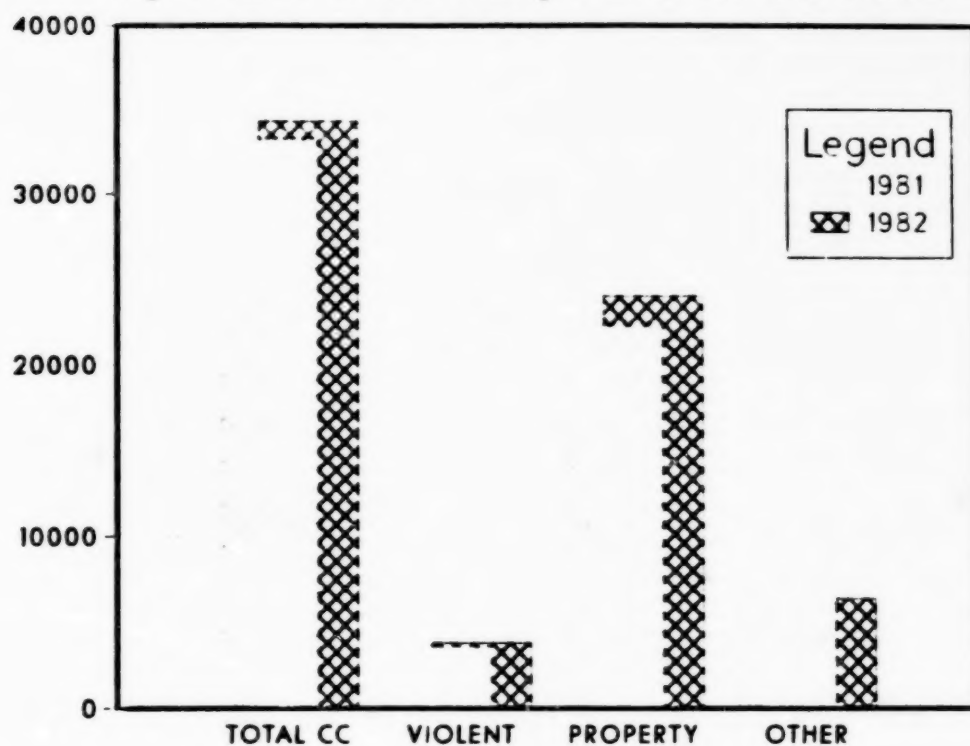
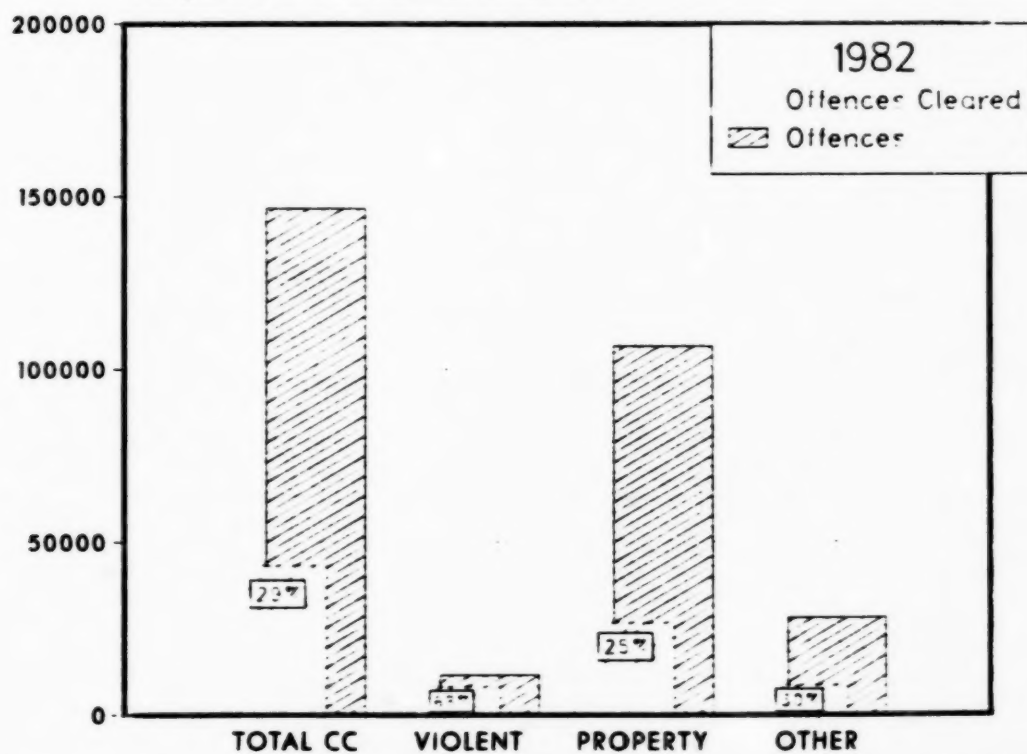


Fig 4B Number of Criminal Code Offences Cleared Compared to Total Number of Offences



the number of offences cleared compared to the total number of offences in each crime category in 1982.

Offence Rates

There was more property crime per 100,000 population than either violent or other Criminal Code crime. Property crime occurred at a rate of 7,901.1 offences per 100,000 population in 1981 compared to 8,202.8 offences per 100,000 in 1982, an increase of 3.8%. A larger increase of 6.3% was recorded for violent crime. The rate was 843.3 offences per 100,000 population during 1981 and 896.0 offences per 100,000 during 1982. The other Criminal Code crime rate decreased 5.0% from 2,278.0 offences per 100,000 population in 1981 to 2,164.8 per 100,000 in 1982. Criminal Code crime occurred at a rate of 11,263.7 offences per 100,000 population in 1982. In 1981, there were 11,022.5 offences per per 100,000 resulting in an increase of 2.2% over the previous year.

VIOLENT CRIME

1981 & 1982 Comparisons

Violent crime increases were lower in jurisdictions with municipal police forces than anywhere else in the province. Violent crime increased 10.1% in 1982 when compared to 1981. The

number of violent offences rose from 10,590 in 1981 to 11,657 in 1982.

Measures of Police Effectiveness

The number of persons charged with violent offences increased 5.8% between 1981 and 1982. There were 3,614 persons charged during 1981 and 3,822 persons charged during 1982.

The clearance rate of violent crime in 1981 was 68.3% while in 1982 it was 68.4%. Slightly more violent crime was cleared otherwise than was cleared by charge. During 1982, 32.3% of violent offences were cleared by charge; 36.0% were cleared otherwise.

Offence Rates

There were more assaults per 100,000 population than any other violent offence. The rate for assault was 608.7 offences per 100,000 in 1981 and 649.2 offences per 100,000 in 1982, representing an increase of 6.7%. The rate of assault causing bodily harm increased 12.4%; 159.0 such offences per 100,000 population occurred during 1981 while 178.8 offences occurred in 1982.

The number of sexual offences and robberies also showed notable increases. The number of sexual offences per 100,000 popu-

lation increased 5.8% while the number of robberies per 100,000 increased 5.4% between 1981 and 1982. There were 86.6 sexual offences and 152.6 robberies per 100,000 population in jurisdictions policed by municipal police departments in 1982. The only type of sexual offence to increase in 1982 was indecent assault while the increase in robbery can be attributed to armed robbery offences.

PROPERTY CRIME

1981 & 1982 Comparisons

The number of property offences increased from 99,221 to 106,716 between 1981 and 1982. This increase represents a growth of 7.6% in property crime.

Measures of Police Effectiveness

The number of persons charged with property offences increased 7.8% between 1981 and 1982. There were 22,322 persons charged with property crimes in 1981 and 24,054 persons charged in 1982.

While 24.3% of all property offences that occurred in 1981 were cleared, 24.8% were cleared in 1982. Most of these offences were cleared by charge. In 1982, 20.9% of property offences were cleared by charge and only 3.9% were cleared otherwise.

Offence Rates

Theft under \$200 was the most common property crime however, the rate per 100,000 increased only slightly between 1981 and 1982 (1.9%). There were 3,042.2 theft under \$200 offences per 100,000 in 1981 and 3,100.8 thefts per 100,000 in 1982. The only theft under \$200 to increase significantly was shoplifting; the rate of shoplifting increased 11.9% from 624.6 offences per 100,000 in 1981 to 699.2 in 1982.

The rate of break and enter remained constant between 1981 and 1982. Although the break and enter of residences decreased slightly during this time (3%), it remained one of the most frequently occurring property offences. There were 1,064.5 break and enters into residences per 100,000 population in 1981; the corresponding rate for 1982 was 1,031.2.

The rates of theft of motor vehicles and possession of stolen property decreased in 1982. Thefts over \$200 and frauds were the only types of property crime to increase substantially during 1982. There were 1,628.5 theft over \$200 offences per 100,000 population in 1981 and 1,831.1 offences per 100,000 in 1982, an increase of 12.4%. The number of frauds increased 20.3% from 521.5 frauds per 100,000 population in 1981 to 627.2 in 1982.

OTHER CRIMINAL CODE CRIME

1981 & 1982 Comparisons

There were fewer other Criminal Code offences in jurisdictions with municipal police departments during 1982 than during 1981. The number of offences decreased 1.5% from 28,607 offences in 1981 to 28,164 offences in 1982.

Measures of Police Effectiveness

The number of persons charged with other Criminal Code offences by municipal police departments decreased in 1982. There were 12.3% fewer persons charged in 1982 than there were in 1981. The number of persons charged decreased from 7,310 to 6,411.

During 1981, 29.6% of other Criminal Code offences were cleared and during 1982, 30.4% were cleared. A larger proportion of the offences were cleared by charge than were cleared otherwise. Of all the other Criminal Code offences that occurred in 1982, 24.7% were cleared by charge and only 5.8% were cleared otherwise.

Offence Rates

Vandalism exhibited the highest crime rates of other Criminal

Code offences in jurisdictions with municipal police departments. There were 1,465.0 such offences per 100,000 population in 1981 and 1,317.6 offences in 1982. This is a decrease of 10.1% in the vandalism rate.

The rate of obstructions (of a peace officer) and bail violations (failure to comply with a summons, recognizance, undertaking or appearance notice) also decreased during this period. Obstruction occurred at a rate of 55.4 offences per 100,000 in 1981 and 43.1 offences in 1982, a decrease of 22.2%. The rates for bail violation were 80.5 and 74.3 for 1981 and 1982 respectively, representing a decrease of 7.7%.

R.C.M.P. (TOTAL)

TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE CRIME

1981 & 1982 Comparisons

Criminal Code crime increased 1.3% in jurisdictions policed by the R.C.M.P. There were 83,023 offences in 1981 which rose to 84,140 in 1982. Figure 5 illustrates the growth in crime in R.C.M.P. jurisdictions.

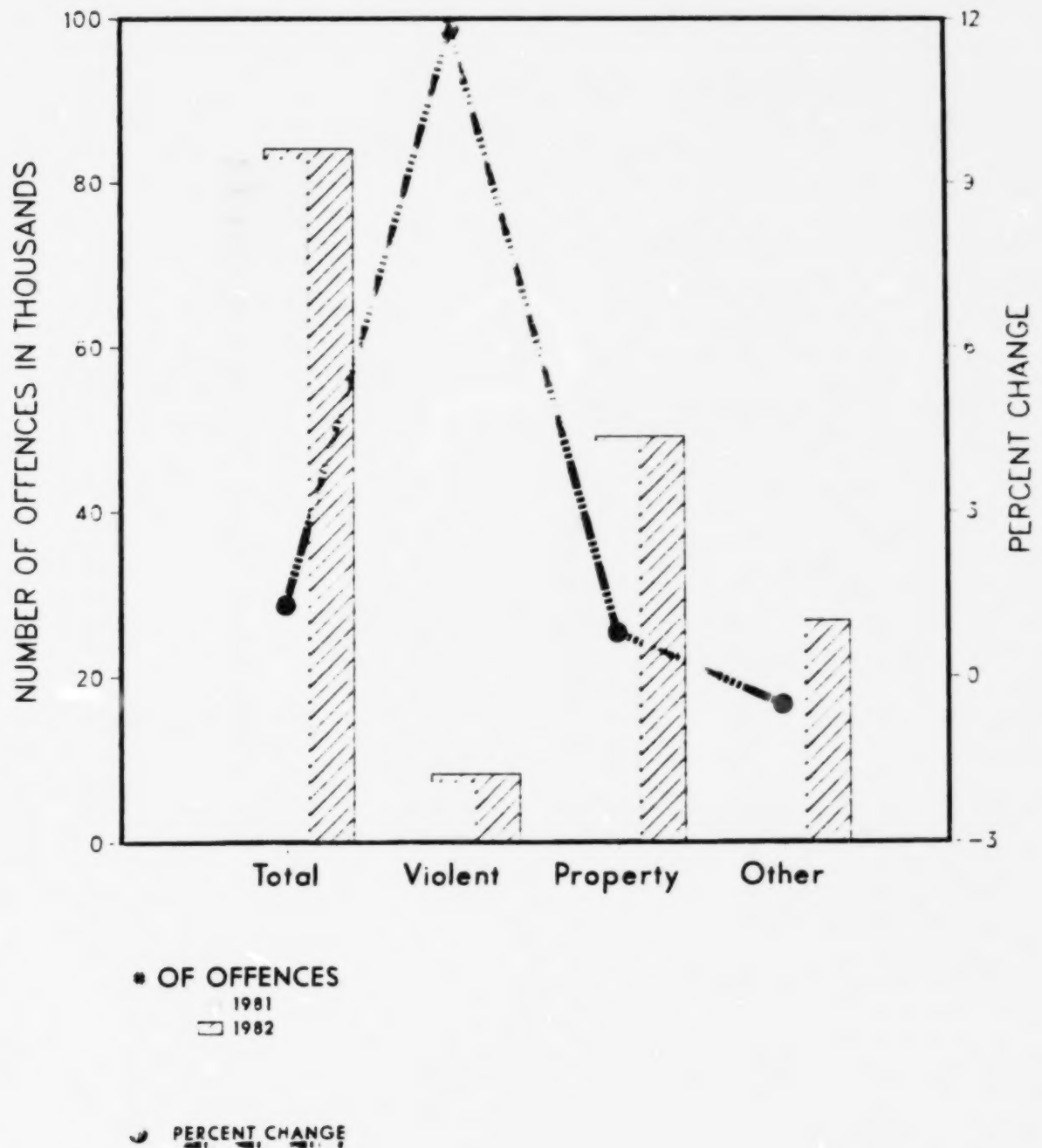
Measures of Police Effectiveness

The number of persons charged with Criminal Code offences by the R.C.M.P. declined between 1981 and 1982. There were 20.3% fewer persons charged in 1982 than there were in 1981. The number of persons charged decreased from 22,344 to 17,818. Figure 6A shows the number of persons charged with Criminal Code offences in each class of crime in 1981 and 1982.

During 1981, 46.3% of Criminal Code offences were cleared and during 1982, 42.2% were cleared. Approximately equal numbers of offences were cleared by charge as were cleared otherwise. In 1982, 23.0% of all Criminal Code offences were cleared by charge and 19.3% were cleared otherwise. Figure 6B illustrates the number of offences cleared compared to the total number of offences in each crime category for 1982.

FIGURE 5

CRIMINAL CODE CRIME IN R.C.M.P. JURISDICTIONS- TOTAL



MEASURES OF POLICE EFFECTIVENESS RCMP - TOTAL

Fig. 6A Number of Persons Charged with Criminal Code Offences

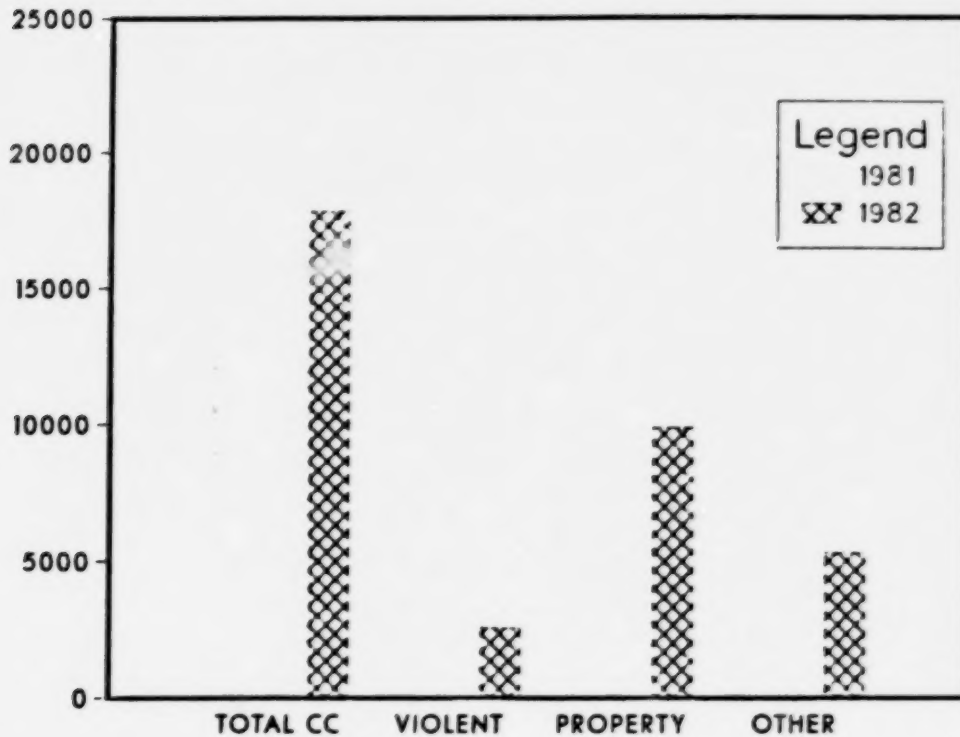
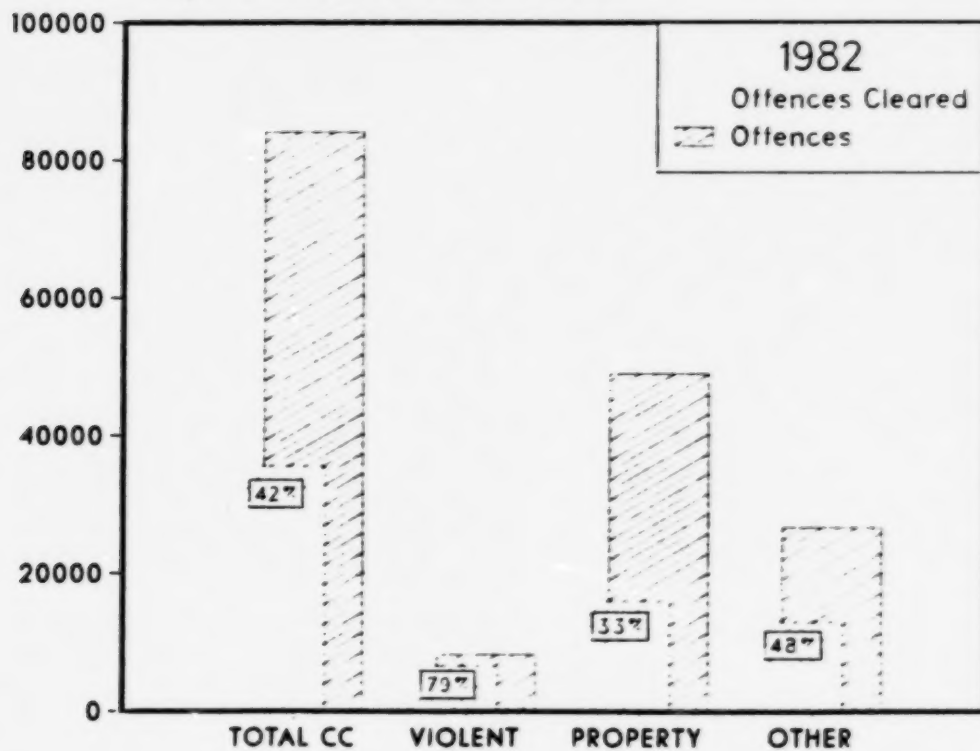


Fig. 6B Number of Criminal Code Offences Cleared Compared to Total Number of Offences



Offence Rates

The Criminal Code crime rate declined 2.3% in jurisdictions contracting the R.C.M.P. for police protection. There were 8,455.0 offences per 100,000 population during 1981 and 8,256.9 offences per 100,000 during 1982. During the corresponding period, violent crime rates were 757.3 in 1981 and 815.8 in 1982, an increase of 7.8%. Property crime rates decreased 2.9% from 4,959.7 in 1981 to 4,815.7 in 1982. There were 2,738.0 other Criminal Code offences per 100,000 population in 1981 and 2,625.3 in 1982, a decrease of 4.1%.

VIOLENT CRIME

1981 & 1982 Comparisons

While Criminal Code crime decreased overall, violent crime increased 11.8% in areas policed by the R.C.M.P. There were 7,436 violent offences during of 1981 and 8,313 offences during 1982.

Measures of Police Effectiveness

The number of persons charged with violent offences decreased 6.0% between 1981 and 1982. There were 2,745 persons charged during 1981 and 2,580 persons charged during 1982.

The clearance rate of violent crime in 1981 was 85.0% while in 1982, it was 79.2%. This clearance rate appears high, however, most of these offences were cleared otherwise instead of by charge. Thirty-two percent of violent crime was cleared by charge in 1982; the remaining 46.6% were cleared otherwise.

Offence Rates

Most types of violent crime increased significantly during 1982. The number of robberies per 100,000 population increased 15.5% while the number of sexual offences per 100,000 increased 14.9%. Although the homicide rate increased 6.3%, this rate is very small (only 3.1 offences per 100,000 population in 1982) and is subject to large fluctuations as a result. The rate of assault increased 6.9% while the attempted murder rate decreased during the same period.

Assault was the most prevalent violent offence in jurisdictions with their own municipal police force in 1981 and 1982. There were 668.9 assaults per 100,000 population in 1981 and 715.2 assaults per 100,000 population in 1982.

PROPERTY CRIME

1981 & 1982 Comparisons

The number of property offences varied little between 1981 and

1982. There was a 0.8% increase from 48,701 offences in 1981 to 49,074 offences in 1982.

Measures of Police Effectiveness

The number of persons charged with property offences decreased during 1982. The number of persons charged with property offences declined from 11,499 in 1981 to 9,913 in 1982, representing a decrease of 13.8%.

Less property crime was cleared during 1982 than during 1981. While 37.5% of all property offences that occurred in 1981 were cleared, 32.6% were cleared in 1982. A larger percentage was cleared by charge than otherwise. In 1982, 20.0% of property offences were cleared by charge and 12.6% were cleared otherwise.

Offence Rates

Property crimes which decreased in 1982 were break and enter, theft of motor vehicles and theft under \$200. The number of break and enters per 100,000 decreased 5.0% while motor vehicle thefts decreased 10.1% between 1981 and 1982. The corresponding decrease for theft under \$200 was 7.1% during this period.

Theft under \$200 was the most common property crime in spite of this decrease. There were 1,875.4 thefts under \$200 per

100,000 population in 1981 and 1,742.0 offences per 100,000 in 1982. The only theft under \$200 to increase was theft of bicycles. This offence increased 19.5% from 271.1 thefts per 100,000 population in 1981 to 324.7 thefts per 100,000 in 1982.

The number of theft over \$200 offences per 100,000 population increased substantially during 1982. There were 851.8 offences per 100,000 population in 1981 and 926.0 offences in 1982 resulting in an 8.7% increase.

While frauds and possession of stolen goods increased during 1982, the increase was negligible.

OTHER CRIMINAL CODE CRIME

1981 & 1982 Comparisons

Other Criminal Code crime declined 0.5% between 1981 and 1982 in R.C.M.P. policed jurisdictions. There were 26,886 offences in 1981 and 26,753 offences in 1982.

Measures of Police Effectiveness

There was a substantial decrease in the number of persons charged with other Criminal Code offences by the R.C.M.P. The number of persons charged declined 34.3% from 8,100 in 1981 to 5,325 in 1982.

The number of other Criminal Code offences cleared was not as high in 1982 as in 1981. In 1981, 51.6% of other Criminal Code offences were cleared and in 1982, 48.4% were cleared. During 1982, 25.6% of other Criminal Code offences were cleared by charge and 22.7% were cleared otherwise.

Offence Rates

Other Criminal Code offence rates decreased during 1982 when compared to 1981. There were 166.9 bail violations per 100,000 population in 1981 and 101.6 violations in 1982, representing a decrease of 39.1%. The vandalism crime rate decreased 13.5% from 1,321.2 in 1981 to 1,142.6 in 1982. In spite of the decline, vandalism had the highest crime rate of other Criminal Code offences. One offence to increase in 1982 was disturbing the peace. There were 291.1 offences per 100,000 in 1981 and 362.9 offences per 100,000 in 1982, an increase of 24.7%.

MUNICIPAL P.C.M.P.

TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE CRIME

1981 & 1982 Comparisons

In municipalities that contracted with the R.C.M.P. to provide police protection, the number of Criminal Code offences varied little between 1981 and 1982. There was a 2.3% increase from 46,308 during 1981 to 47,377 offences during 1982. Figure 7 illustrates the growth in crime in municipal R.C.M.P. jurisdictions.

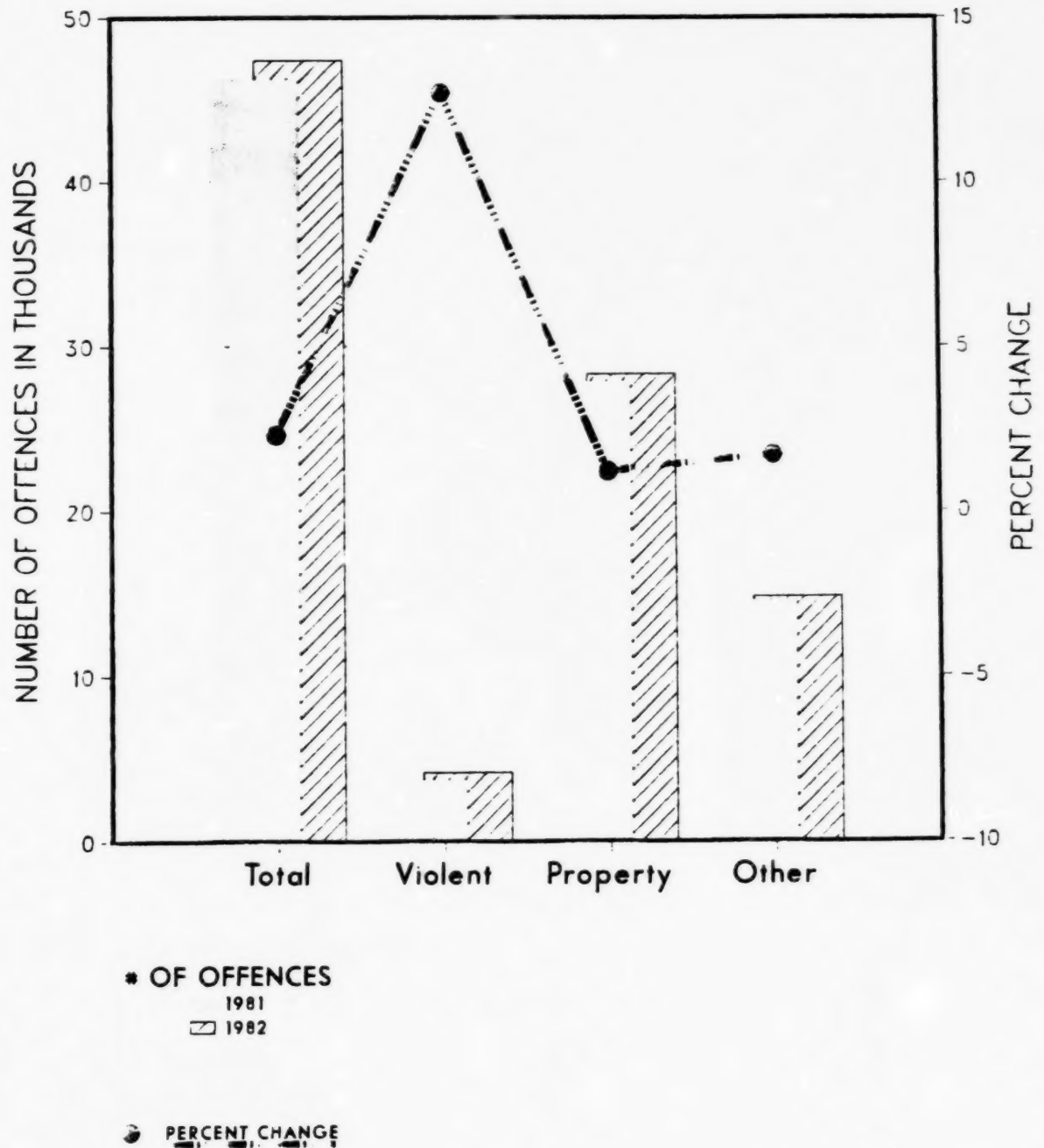
Measures of Police Effectiveness

A considerable decline of 18.8% occurred in the number of persons charged with Criminal Code offences. In 1981, 12,142 persons were charged with Criminal Code offences while in 1982, 9,860 persons were charged. Figure 8A shows the number of persons charged with Criminal Code offences in each class of crime in 1981 and 1982.

The rate at which Criminal Code crime was cleared decreased between 1981 and 1982. In 1981, 45.8% of all Criminal Code offences that occurred were cleared and in 1982, 41.1% were cleared. There was little difference between the percent of offences cleared by charge and the percent cleared otherwise.

FIGURE 7

CRIMINAL CODE CRIME IN MUNICIPAL R.C.M.P. JURISDICTIONS



MEASURES OF POLICE EFFECTIVENESS RCMP - MUNICIPAL

Fig. 8A Number of Persons Charged with Criminal Code Offences

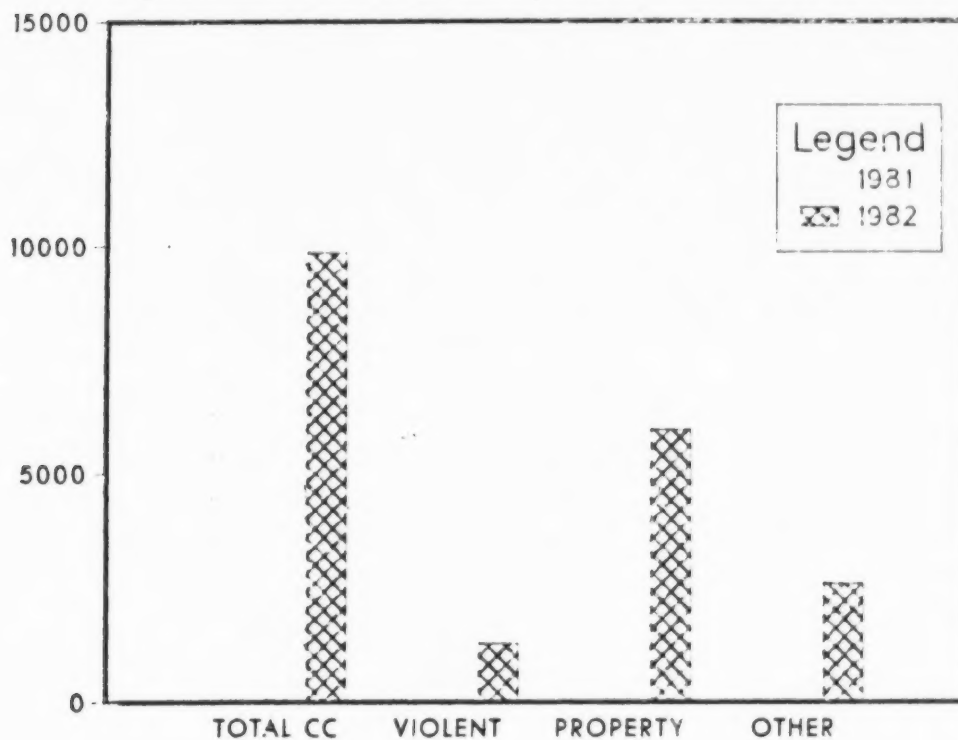
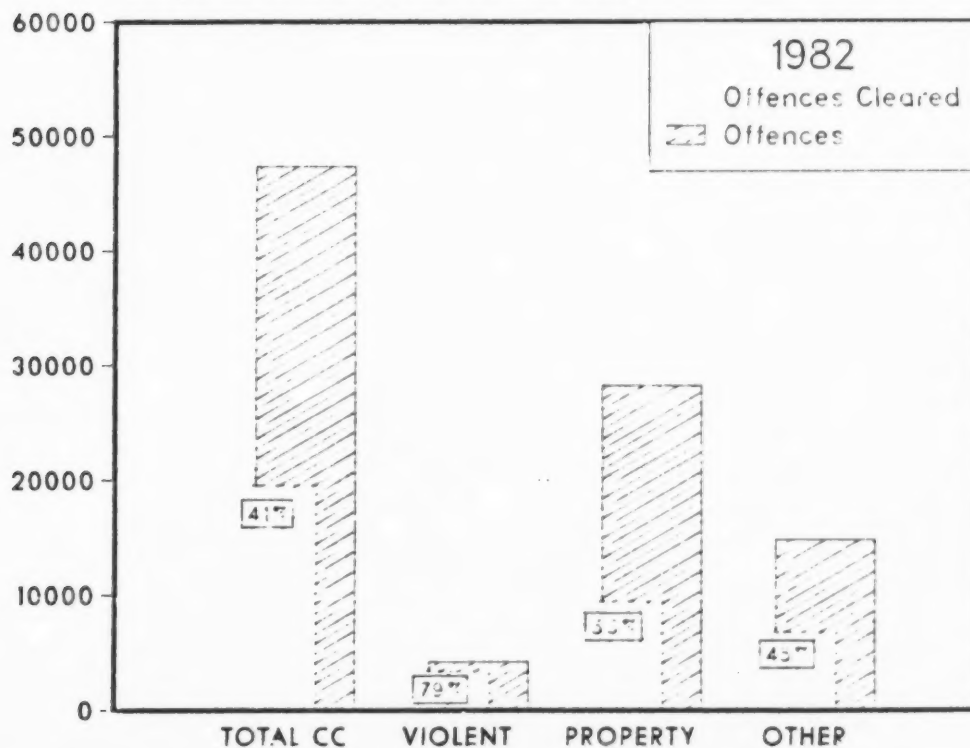


Fig. 8B Number of Criminal Code Offences Cleared Compared to Total Number of Offences



In 1982, 22.2% of Criminal Code offences were cleared by charge and 18.9% were cleared otherwise. Figure 8B illustrates the number of offences cleared compared to the total number of offences in each crime category during 1982.

Offence Rates

Although the actual number of Criminal Code offences increased slightly in 1982, the crime rate decreased 3.5% as a result of the population growth during this period. Criminal Code crime occurred at a rate of 10,985.2 offences per 100,000 population during 1981 and 10,605.5 offences per 100,000 population in 1982. The violent crime rate was the only one to increase during this period. This rate increased 6.3% from 893.4 offences per 100,000 in 1981 to 949.8 offences per 100,000 in 1982. The rate of other Criminal Code crime was 3,463.6 in 1981 and 3,323.8 in 1982. This was a decrease of 4.0%. The corresponding rate of property crime decreased 4.5% from 6,628.2 property offences per 100,000 population during 1981 to 6,331.9 offences per 100,000 during 1982.

VIOLENT CRIME

1981 & 1982 Comparisons

In the municipalities that contracted with the R.C.M.P. for

policing, violent crime increased 12.7% in 1982 when compared to 1981. There were 3,766 violent offences in 1981 and 4,243 offences in 1982.

Measures of Police Effectiveness

The number of persons charged with violent crimes declined between 1981 and 1982. While 1,354 persons were charged with violent offences in 1981, 1,292 persons were charged in 1982, a decline of 4.6%.

The number of violent crimes cleared by the R.C.M.P. in municipalities declined between 1981 and 1982. There were 84.7% of violent offences cleared in 1981 and 78.7% cleared in 1982. There were fewer offences cleared by charge than cleared otherwise. While 31.3% of violent offences in 1982 were cleared by charge, 47.4% were cleared otherwise.

Offence Rates

The increase in the number of violent offences per 100,000 population between 1981 and 1982 was influenced by an increase in assault rates. Assault was the most prevalent violent offence in municipalities policed by the R.C.M.P. The assault rate increased 6.4% from 785.9 assaults per 100,000 population in 1981 to 835.9 assaults per 100,000 in 1982. Assault causing bodily harm increased more than any other type of assault

(15.6%) while assault against police officers was the only type of assault to decrease during 1982.

The only other type of violent offence to increase significantly was sexual offences (12.3%). The number of robberies per 100,000 population decreased 6.4% while the number of homicides and attempted murders per 100,000 did not change significantly between 1981 and 1982.

PROPERTY CRIME

1981 & 1982 Comparisons

In municipalities that contracted with the R.C.M.P. to provide policing, the number of property offences increased from 27,941 during 1981 to 28,286 during 1982. The increase in property crime was only 1.2%.

Measures of Police Effectiveness

The number of persons charged with property crime decreased from 6,815 in 1981 to 5,969 in 1982. This represents a decline of 12.4%.

The rate at which property crimes were cleared decreased somewhat between 1981 and 1982. The property crime clearance rate was 39.4% in 1981 and 33.2% in 1982. The R.C.M.P. municipal

police cleared 21.1% of property crime by charge and 12.1% otherwise in 1982.

Offence Rates

Most property crimes decreased between 1981 and 1982. The rate of theft under \$200 decreased 6.9% but remained the most frequently occurring property crime. There were 2,834.1 thefts per 100,000 population during 1981 and 2,637.2 thefts per 100,000 in of 1982. The rate of break and enter decreased 7.8%, the rate of motor vehicle theft decreased 6.0%, and the rate of fraud declined 8.5%.

Theft over \$200 and possession of stolen goods were the only two property offences to increase in rate per 100,000 population. There were 966.2 thefts over \$200 per 100,000 population in 1981 and 1,070.7 thefts per 100,000 in 1982, an increase of 10.8%. The rate of possession of stolen property increased 3.7% between 1981 and 1982.

OTHER CRIMINAL CODE CRIME

1981 & 1982 Comparisons

There were 1.7% more other Criminal Code offences in 1982 than

in 1981 in municipalities contracting with the R.C.M.P. The number of other Criminal Code offences was 14,601 during 1981 and 14,248 in 1982.

Measures of Police Effectiveness

The number of persons charged with other Criminal Code offences decreased 34.6% between 1981 and 1982 from 3,973 persons to 2,599.

There was less other Criminal Code crime cleared in 1982 than in 1981. While 48.1% of these offences were cleared during 1981, 45.3% were cleared in 1982. During 1982, 21.8% of other Criminal Code crime was cleared by charge while 23.6% were cleared otherwise.

Offence Rates

Vandalism was the most common other Criminal Code offence. The rate of vandalism was 1,720.5 offences per 100,000 population in 1981 and 1,448.1 per 100,000 in 1982, a drop of 15.8%. The rate of bail violations also decreased from 170.8 violations per 100,000 population to 87.3 violations per 100,000. This was a decline of 48.9% from 1981 to 1982. Both disturbing the peace and obstructing a peace officer increased 23.2% between 1981 and 1982. The rate of disturbing the peace increased from

456.2 offences per 100,000 in 1981 to 561.9 per 100,000 in 1982. The corresponding rates of obstruction were 46.5 in 1981 and 57.3 in 1982.

PROVINCIAL P.C.M.P.

TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE CRIME

1981 & 1982 Comparisons

Criminal Code crime remained almost unchanged in rural areas policed by the R.C.M.P. The number of Criminal Code offences declined 0.6% from 36,589 offences in 1981 to 36,353 offences in 1982. Figure 9 depicts the above decrease.

Measures of Police Effectiveness

While the number of offences was almost constant in 1982, the number of persons charged decreased 21.7%. The provincial R.C.M.P. charged 10,087 persons with Criminal Code offences in 1981 and 7,894 persons in 1982. Figure 10A shows the number of persons charged with Criminal Code offences in each class of crime during 1981 and 1982 in provincial R.C.M.P. policing jurisdictions.

More crime was cleared during 1981 than during 1982. The clearance rate for Criminal Code crime was 46.5% in 1981. The corresponding rate for 1982 was 43.7%. In 1982, 23.9% of Criminal Code offences were cleared by charge and 19.8% were cleared otherwise. Figure 10B illustrates the number of offences cleared compared to the total number of offences in each crime category during 1982.

FIGURE 9

CRIMINAL CODE CRIME IN PROVINCIAL R.C.M.P. JURISDICTIONS

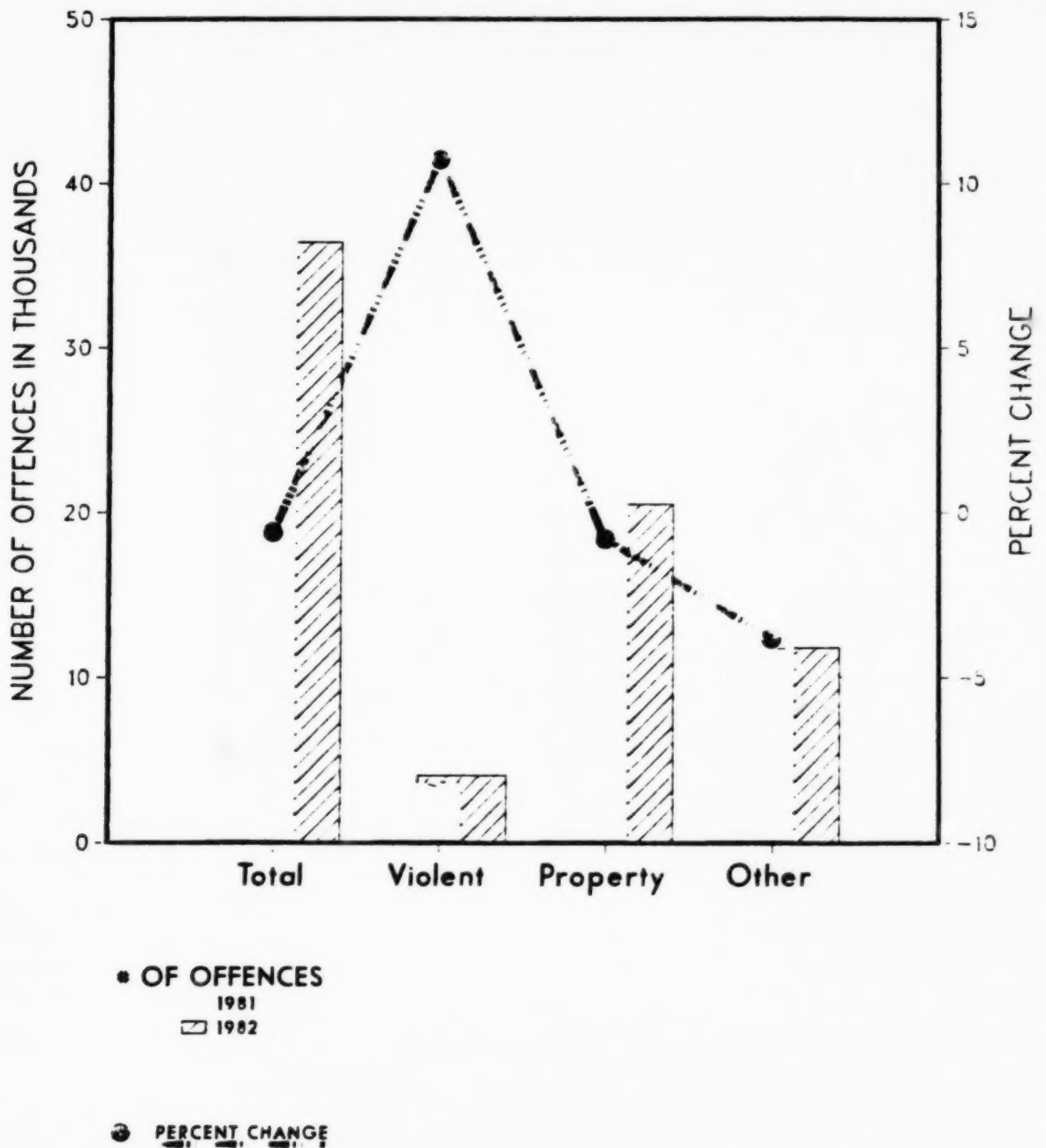


Fig 10A Number of Persons Charged with Criminal Code Offences

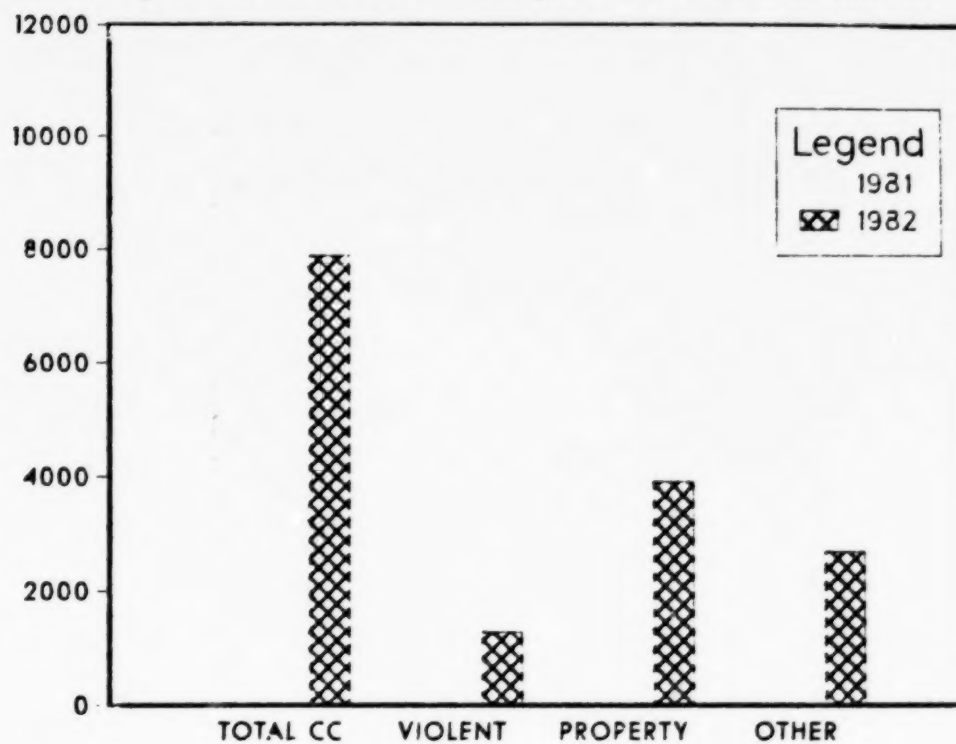
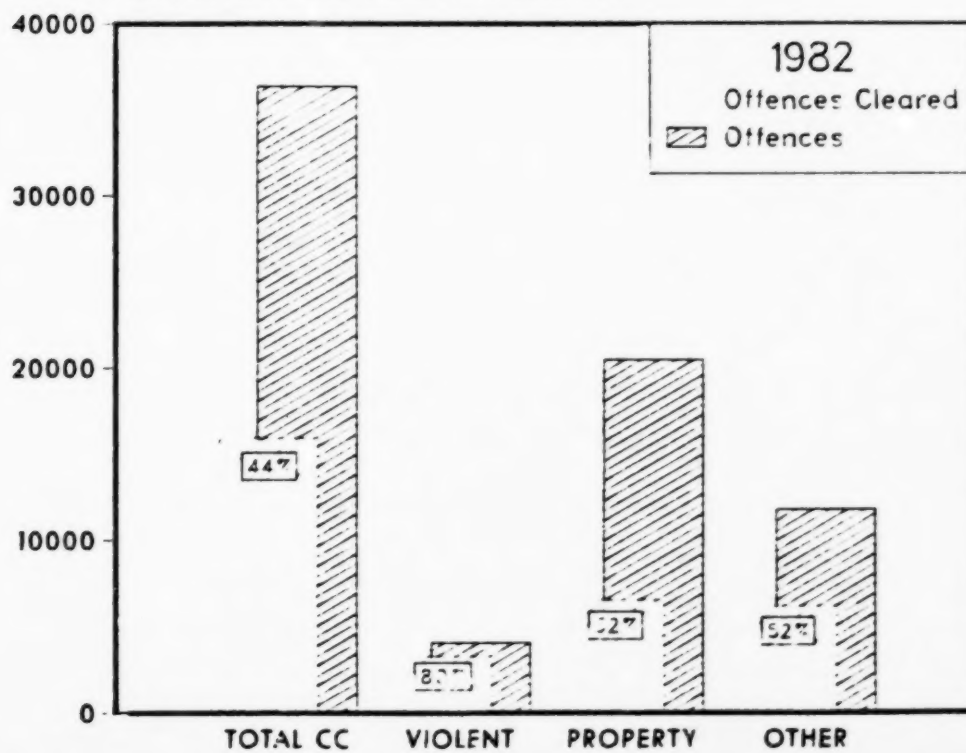


Fig 10B Number of Criminal Code Offences Cleared Compared to Total Number of Offences



Offence Rates

Overall, there were 6,529.2 Criminal Code offences per 100,000 during 1981 and 6,352.0 offences per 100,000 during 1982 representing a decrease of 2.7% between the two years. The property crime rate decreased similarly in 1982. The number of property offences per 100,000 population decreased 2.9% from 3,686.7 in 1981 to 3,581.4 in 1982. Other Criminal Code crime rates were 2,187.8 and 2,060.8 in 1981 and 1982 respectively. This was a 5.8% decrease between the two years. The violent crime rate was the only one to increase during 1982. The rates for violent crime were 654.7 offences per 100,000 in 1981 and 709.8 offences in 1982 representing an increase of 8.4%.

VIOLENT CRIME

1981 & 1982 Comparisons

Growth in violent crime in rural areas policed by the R.C.M.P. was 10.7%. There were 3,669 violent offences in 1981 and 4,062 violent offences in 1982.

Measures of Police Effectiveness

While the number of offences increased, the number of persons charged with violent offences decreased 7.6% between 1981 and 1982. There were 1,390 persons charged with violent offences

in 1981 and 1,284 persons charged with violent offences in 1982.

Fewer violent offences were cleared in 1982 than in 1981. While 85.3% of violent crime was cleared in 1981, 79.7% was cleared in 1982. More violent offences were cleared otherwise than by charge. Forty-seven percent of the violent offences that occurred in 1982 were cleared otherwise while 32.7% were cleared by charge.

Offence Rates

Assault remained the most prevalent violent offence with rates of 530.7 per 100,000 in 1981 and 619.8 per 100,000 in 1982. This was a 6.7% increase in the rate of assault. Assault causing bodily harm increased more than any other assault in 1982 (21.8%).

Sexual and robbery offence rates also increased although the number of these offences did not occur as frequently in 1982 as in 1981. Sexual offences increased 17.2% from 50.7 offences per 100,000 population in 1981 to 59.4 offences in 1982. The robbery crime rate went from 14.3 offences per 100,000 in 1981 to 21.3 offences in 1982 increasing 49.3% during this time.

Homicide and attempted murder were the only two types of violent crime that did not increase during 1982. The rate of both crimes remained relatively constant between 1981 and 1982.

PROPERTY CRIME

1981 & 1982 Comparisons

A small decrease in property crime occurred in 1982 when compared to 1981. Property crime decreased from 20,660 offences in 1981 to 20,497 offences in 1982, a decline of 0.8%.

Measures of Police Effectiveness

The number of persons charged in 1981 was 4,625 while the number of persons charged with property offences in 1982 was 3,922. This represents a decrease of 14.6%.

More property crime was cleared in 1981 than in 1982. These rates were 34.4% in 1981 and 31.7% in 1982. While 18.4% of property offences were cleared by charge, 13.3% were cleared otherwise during 1982.

Offence Rates

The only notable increases in property crime rates occurred for thefts over \$200 and frauds. There were 764.1 thefts per 100,000 in 1981 and 802.7 thefts per 100,000 in 1982 represent-

ing an increase of 5.1%. Frauds occurred at a rate of 317.8 offences per 100,000 population in 1981. This increased 16.9% to 371.5 offences per 100,000 in 1982. Cheque fraud was largely responsible for the increase. The rate of possession of stolen goods also increased in 1982 but only by 2.9% above the 1981 rate.

There were more thefts under \$200 than any property crime in spite of the 10.2% decrease between 1981 and 1982. This crime rate was 1,154.2 offences per 100,000 population in 1981 and 1,036.5 offences per 100,000 in 1982.

OTHER CRIMINAL CODE CRIME

1981 & 1982 Comparisons

Other Criminal Code crime decreased 5.8% between 1981 and 1982 in rural areas policed by the R.C.M.P. The number of offences declined from 12,260 in 1981 to 11,794 in 1982; a decrease of 3.8%.

Measures of Police Effectiveness

The number of persons charged declined by an even larger margin than the number of offences. There were 4,072 persons charged with other Criminal Code offences in 1981 and 2,688 persons charged during 1982 representing a decline of 34.0%.

The clearance rates were higher in 1981 than in 1982. Provincial R.C.M.P. forces cleared 55.3% of other Criminal Code offences in 1981. Fifty-two percent of other Criminal Code crime was cleared in 1982. More other Criminal Code crime was cleared by charge (30.3%) than was cleared otherwise (21.6%).

Offence Rates

Vandalism was the most prevalent other Criminal Code offence even though this rate decreased 11.6% between 1981 and 1982. There were 1,020.7 offences per 100,000 population during 1981 and 902.3 offences per 100,000 during 1982.

The number of bail violations also decreased notably. The decline from 164.0 bail violations per 100,000 population in 1981 to 112.7 bail violations per 100,000 in 1982 represented a 31.3% decrease.

One offence to increase in rate per 100,000 population was disturbing the peace. There were 166.8 offences per 100,000 in 1981 and 203.9 offences in 1982 representing an increase of 22.2%.

SUMMARY

Tables 1 to 4 present the number of offences for total Criminal Code, violent, property and other Criminal Code crime in Alberta and selected policing jurisdictions. Tables 5 to 8 summarize the rates per 100,000 population for the above categories. The percentage increase or decrease between 1980 and 1981 in the number of offences and in crime rates is also presented.

The rate of Criminal Code crime in Alberta was 9,895.8 offences per 100,000 population in 1981 and 9,943.0 offences per 100,000 in 1982. These rates indicate that Criminal Code crime was more common in 1982 than in 1981. There were 805.6 violent offences per 100,000 population in 1981 and 860.8 offences per 100,000 population in 1982. Property crime was the most frequently occurring Criminal Code crime. There were 6,610.4 property offences per 100,000 population in 1981 and 6,715.1 offences per 100,000 population in 1982. Other Criminal Code crime occurred at a rate of 2,479.9 offences per 100,000 in 1981 and 2,367.1 offences per 100,000 in 1982 in the province.

The number of offences and the rate at which these were cleared in the province was relatively constant between 1981 and 1982. The number of persons charged, however, decreased 6.3% during this period.

Violent crime increased more than any other type of crime in Alberta in 1982. There were 18,026 violent offences in Alberta during 1981 and 19,970 offences in 1982, an increase of 10.8%. Violent crime also had the highest clearance rates in the province. More violent offences were cleared otherwise than by charge when compared to other types of crime.

The introduction of the Operational Statistics Reporting system (O.S.R.) for internal use by the R.C.M.P. on January 1, 1982 affects the Uniform Crime Reporting (U.C.R.) data in several areas. Due to some programming problems and the inherent problems in implementation, data scored for O.S.R. was not always generated on the U.C.R. tape. Therefore, R.C.M.P. statistics concerning actual number of offences and clearance rates tend to be lower. This should be kept in mind when comparing 1981 and 1982 figures for R.C.M.P. policing jurisdictions.

Table 1
Total Criminal Code
Number of Offences & Percent Change Between 1981 & 1982

Criminal Code Crime	1981	1982	Percent Change
Alberta Total	221,441	230,677	+4.2
Municipal Police	138,418	146,537	+5.9
R.C.M.P. Total	83,023	84,140	+1.3
Municipal R.C.M.P.	46,308	47,377	+2.3
Provincial R.C.M.P.	36,589	36,353	-0.6

Table 2
Violent Crime
Number of Offences & Percent Change Between 1981 & 1982

Violent Crime	1981	1982	Percent Change
Alberta Total	18,026	19,970	+10.8
Municipal Police	10,590	11,657	+10.1
R.C.M.P. Total	7,436	8,313	+11.8
Municipal R.C.M.P.	3,766	4,243	+12.7
Provincial R.C.M.P.	3,669	4,062	+10.7

Table 3
Property Crime
Number of Offences & Percent Change Between 1981 & 1982

Property Crime	1981	1982	Percent Change
Alberta Total	147,922	155,790	+5.3
Municipal Police	99,221	106,716	+7.6
R.C.M.P. Total	48,701	49,074	+0.8
Municipal R.C.M.P.	27,941	28,286	+1.2
Provincial R.C.M.P.	20,660	20,497	-0.8

Table 4
Other Criminal Code Crime
Number of Offences & Percent Change Between 1981 & 1982

Other Criminal Code Crime	1981	1982	Percent Change
Alberta Total	55,493	54,917	-1.0
Municipal Police	28,607	28,164	-1.5
R.C.M.P. Total	26,886	26,753	-0.5
Municipal R.C.M.P.	14,601	14,848	+1.7
Provincial R.C.M.P.	12,260	11,794	-3.8

Table 5
Total Criminal Code
Rates Per 100,000 Population & Percent Change Between 1981 & 1982

Criminal Code Crime	1981	1982	Percent Change
Alberta Total	9,895.8	9,943.0	+0.5
Municipal Police	11,022.5	11,263.7	+2.2
R.C.M.P. Total	8,455.0	8,256.9	-2.3
Municipal R.C.M.P.	10,985.2	10,605.5	-3.5
Provincial R.C.M.P.	6,529.2	6,352.0	-2.7

Table 6
Violent Crime
Rates Per 100,000 Population & Percent Change Between 1981 & 1982

Violent Crime	1981	1982	Percent Change
Alberta Total	805.6	860.8	+6.9
Municipal Police	843.3	896.0	+6.3
R.C.M.P. Total	757.3	815.8	+7.7
Municipal R.C.M.P.	893.4	949.8	+6.3
Provincial R.C.M.P.	654.7	709.8	+8.4

Table 7
Property Crime
Rates Per 100,000 Population & Percent Change Between 1981 & 1982

Property Crime	1981	1982	Percent Change
Alberta Total	6,610.4	6,715.1	+1.6
Municipal Police	7,901.1	8,202.8	+3.8
R.C.M.P. Total	4,959.7	4,815.7	-2.9
Municipal R.C.M.P.	6,628.2	6,331.9	-4.5
Provincial R.C.M.P.	3,686.7	3,581.4	-2.9

Table 8
Other Criminal Code Crime
Rates Per 100,000 Population & Percent Change Between 1981 & 1982

Other Criminal Code Crime	1981	1982	Percent Change
Alberta Total	2,479.9	2,367.1	-4.5
Municipal Police	2,278.0	2,164.8	-5.0
R.C.M.P. Total	2,738.0	2,625.3	-4.1
Municipal R.C.M.P.	3,463.6	3,323.8	-4.0
Provincial R.C.M.P.	2,187.8	2,060.8	-5.8

POOR

QUALITY

ORIGINAL